

Livestock Inventory & Production

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The total value of all cattle, hogs and sheep on Pennsylvania farms January 1, 2007, was \$1.9 billion, down 10 percent from the previous year. Cattle inventory was valued at \$1.78 billion on January 1, 2007, accounting for 94.3 percent of the total value of all livestock in Pennsylvania. Sheep inventory, valued at \$16.5 million, accounted for 0.9 percent of the total. Hog inventory, valued at \$91.0 million on December 1, 2006, accounted for 4.8 percent of the total livestock inventory value.

Cattle: All cattle in Pennsylvania totaled 1,600,000 head on January 1, 2007, up 10,000 head from January 1, 2006. Of the total, 700,000 were cows and heifers that had calved. Milk cow inventory totaled 550,000, an 8,000 head decrease from one year earlier. The number of beef cows at 150,000 head, was down 2,000 head from last year. Heifers 500 pounds and over totaled 375,000, up 15,000 head from January 1, 2006. There were 270,000 heifers for dairy replacement and 40,000 for beef cow replacement. Steers 500 pounds and over totaled 160,000. A total of 25,000 bulls 500 pounds and over were on hand. Calves under 500 pounds totaled 340,000, a 5,000 head decrease from the previous year. The 2006 Pennsylvania calf crop totaled 620,000 head, up 10,000 from the 2005 calf crop.

The gross income from cattle production was \$486 million in 2006, down 1.2 percent from the previous year. There were 27,000 Pennsylvania farms having cattle during 2006. Farms with milk cows decreased to 8,700 in 2006, down 200 operations. Pennsylvania ranked 4th in the United States in milk cow inventory on January 1, 2006, and 20th in cattle inventory.

Hogs: There were 1,080,000 hogs and pigs on Pennsylvania farms as of December 1, 2006, 20,000 head below the previous year. Breeding hog inventory, at 105,000 head, was 5,000 head more than the previous year. A total of 975,000 market hogs and pigs were on hand as of December 1, 2006, 25,000 head below last year.

Pennsylvania's pig crop in 2006 totaled 1,676,000, down 102,000 head from 2005. A total of 182,000 sows farrowed in 2006, averaging 9.21 pigs per litter. The gross income from pork production was \$210.7 million for 2006, which was down 14 percent from 2005. Hog operations numbered 3,100 in 2006, down 100 from the previous year. Pennsylvania's hog inventory ranked 12th in the United States on December 1, 2006.

Sheep: January 1, 2007 sheep and lamb inventory totaled 108,000 head, down 2,000 head from January 1, 2006. Commonwealth flocks included 97,000 breeding sheep and lambs. The total lamb crop for 2006 was 92,000 lambs, up 4,000 head from 2005. Wool production totaled 400,000 pounds, 60,000 pounds less than 2005 wool production.

The gross income from sheep production in 2006 was \$8.1 million, up 12 percent from 2005. The value of wool produced during the year was \$120,000, down \$4,000 from 2005. Sheep farms numbered 3,800, up 200 farms from last year. Pennsylvania ranked 15th in the United States in sheep and lamb inventory as of January 1, 2007.

Goats: January 1, 2007 milk and meat goat inventory totaled 49,800 head, up 2,600 head from January 1, 2006. Commonwealth herds included 38,000 meat and other goats and 11,800 milk goats.

Red Meat Production: Pennsylvania red meat production, dressed weight basis, in commercial slaughter establishments totaled 1.223 billion pounds in 2006, up 5.7 percent from 2005. There were 250 commercial slaughter plants in Pennsylvania on January 1, 2006. Pennsylvania ranked 1st among all states in the number of commercial slaughter plants.

Commercial cattle slaughter totaled 858,500 head in 2006, 2.1 percent above the previous year. Total live weight for cattle slaughtered was 1.05 billion pounds. Average live weight at 1,238 pounds was 17 pounds above the 2005 average. Slaughter of calves weighing less than 500 pounds totaled 178,100 head, up 16 percent from 2005. Total live weight for calves slaughtered was 70.9 million pounds. The average live weight for calves, at 399 pounds, is down 11 pounds from 2005.

A total of 2,959,900 hogs were slaughtered in Pennsylvania in 2006, up 4.2 percent from 2005. Total live weight for hogs slaughtered was 738,291,000 pounds. The average live weight for hogs slaughtered was 250 pounds, up 5 pounds from 2005.

Sheep and lamb slaughter was at 55,000 head. Total live weight for sheep and lambs slaughtered was 5,142,000 pounds. Sheep slaughtered averaged 93 pounds live weight, down 3 pounds from the previous year.

Pennsylvania ranked 12th among all states in commercial red meat production in 2006. Pennsylvania's rankings by number of head slaughtered were: 8th for cattle, 1st for calves, 9th for hogs, and 7th for sheep.